



COOMBE HILL INFANTS' SCHOOL

Friday 3 November 2023

Dear Families,

It is lovely to see your children back refreshed after their half term break. They have settled back into the school routines and our learning behaviour is readiness, helped by Piglet. We have been thinking about the importance of good listening. Please reinforce this at home. We are also insisting that the children use indoor voices and walk inside school, again it would be helpful for you to talk about this with your children at home. Next week, we will be focusing on being Respectful like Winnie the Pooh



We are delighted that the children are enjoying the reading books and bedtime story books which go home each week. We are finding that quite a few are not being returned or are coming back to school without the bags. Please could you check to see if you have any at home and return them, thank you.

Wet weather and boots

The weather has been so wet recently and the adventure playground is extremely muddy and waterlogged. We are aware that children are going home with very muddy and wet shoes. We would like to request that each child brings a pair of wellington boots into school. The hope is that they would stay in school and the children can change into them each playtime. If you are able to send in boots please ensure they are named and in a bag, we do have some spares if you are unable to do this. In addition if you have any spare boots that you are able to donate they would be most welcome. Please could all children now bring a waterproof coat to school, we do play outside when it is wet and they do need a coat. Again, please ensure all coats are named. Thank you.

Job vacancies

We are currently recruiting teaching assistants and learning support assistants. The jobs are advertised on eteach. Please follow the links for the job adverts or go directly to eteach if you, or someone you know, may be interested:

Teaching Assistant - <https://www.eteach.com/job/teaching-assistant-1381049>

Learning Support Assistant - <https://www.eteach.com/job/send-learning-support-assistant-1380962>

Communication

We hope that you are happy with the communications you receive from school, please let us know if you feel there is anything we could do to improve things. It is so important that we work together to support your child. If you would like to send an email to your child's class teacher please send it to admin@chi.rbksch.org rather than directly to the member of staff. The email will be forwarded and the teacher will get back to you.

Fireworks celebration

It was unfortunate that we had to cancel the Fireworks celebration on Wednesday, we are hoping that the weather is in our favour on Wednesday 15 November and that the event will be able to go ahead as planned. Tickets are on sale via <https://ticketstripe.com/events/1037088>. All tickets bought for the event on Wednesday 1 November will be valid for the new date. If you cannot make the new date, then please email chiptachair@gmail.com to arrange a refund.

Emotional Regulation workshops

Thank you so much to Shakira for running the workshop for parents this morning - there was a good turnout and the feedback was really positive! Parents really appreciated Shakira's non judgemental approach and said that she gave practical advice and useful strategies to use at home. If you were unable to attend, Shakira is running the same workshop online on Thursday 9th November at 6-7pm - please contact the office if you would like the link to join.

Important dates for the second half of the Autumn term

Once again, please find attached a link to the key dates for the remainder of the Autumn term. These dates include the dates for our Christmas concerts and upcoming year group meetings. Please take the time to read this and make a note of the dates. We may add further dates and these will be communicated with you via email or the weekly newsletter.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Q11DJN91r6rqgTIK01q382lxW4KCW408/edit?usp=sharing&oid=109721753956510019087&rtpof=true&sd=true>

Christmas Fair - request for donations

Please see the letter at the end of this newsletter from the Christmas Fair committee for full details of the donations that we are requesting for the Christmas Fair on Saturday 2 December, and the collection dates in school. Thank you so much for your support, this is one of our biggest fundraising events of the year.

Christmas Fair International food stall

The Celebrating Diversity team is organising the international food stall for the Christmas fair this year and they have the following request:

"The international food stall is always a very sought after stall so we want to make sure we have enough food. Everyone is welcome to cook a dish and bring it warm on the day, no matter what time you will be arriving. If anyone is able to bring food could you please let us know at chiptadiversity@gmail.com. Please include your name, what type of dish and approximately what time you will arrive at the fair. Please also let us know if you are able to volunteer on the day, we will be needing three people every half hour. Dishes that are super helpful to cook can be rice/veg rice, tomato pasta for the kids and mac and cheese, noodles, mash etc. These always sell out. Feel free to cook as much or as little as possible. We are aiming for around 10-15 servings from one dish if you can. Thank you".

Primary school admissions for September 2024

A reminder to our Year 2 parents and those families who have children due to start Reception in September 2024 that you must apply for your child's school place by Monday 15 January 2024. Year 2 parents must all apply for your child's year 3 place at Coombe Hill Junior school, even though we are partner schools. Families with younger siblings due to start Reception in September must also apply for their child's place, making sure that you state that you already have a sibling in our school (or the Junior school if they are transferring to year 3). Full details of the admissions process and important dates are contained in the Primary School Admissions brochure here:

['Admission to Kingston's primary schools for September 2024 entry'](#)

Data collection sheets

Please return the data collection sheet for your child to the school office if you have not done so already. It is very important that we have up to date information on your child's emergency contacts.

Name labelling and misplaced items

We would be very grateful if you could all spend some time clearly labelling your child's clothing and water bottles. With 270 children in the school it is very easy for items to be misplaced and we can only return these to your child if they are named very clearly. We try to return misplaced named items to your child's coat peg or classroom but sometimes they end up in the lost property box (in the year one playground - you can look in here during school drop off or pick up). Unnamed items that are misplaced cannot be returned to your child as we may not know who they belong to. Unnamed items will be put in the lost property box and if unclaimed by the end of term will be donated to charity as we cannot store lost items for long. To make things easier for us and to save time please clearly name all of the following:

- Water bottles

- Lunchboxes
- Jumpers
- Fleeces
- PE kit
- Coats
- Hats
- Individual gloves
- Scarves
- School shoes and PE trainers
- Wellies
- Any other item of clothing that your child brings to school for non-uniform days/forest school sessions etc

We appreciate your help with this, thank you.

The Poppy Appeal

We will be selling poppies for the Poppy Appeal at school throughout next week. The children can bring a donation into school with them (£1 is the suggested amount) and they can come up to the office during the day to buy a poppy (we also have some other small items in the box for sale). We are also selling poppies at the school office desk. We will be laying a wreath on behalf of our school at the war memorial on New Malden High Street on Remembrance Sunday (Sunday 12 November). For more information see <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/poppy-appeal>.

Macmillan coffee morning and cake sale

Thank you to everyone who supported our Macmillan cake sale last term, we raised £299.50 which we are delighted to pass on to the charity.

Harvest collection

The Ace of Clubs charity have asked us to pass on their thanks to you for your generous donations and support towards our Harvest festival last term, please see their message below:

Dear Parents and Children,

The Ace of Clubs is most grateful for all the wonderful donations and gifts from your School community. Please warmly thank them from me and all at the Ace of Clubs. We very much depend on the gifts received during Harvest Festival time to maintain the level of services we wish to provide to our guests.

Ace of Clubs continues to be increasingly and consistently busy. We provide services throughout the year. The demand for our services is very high, providing a dining-in or takeaway hot meal. The needs of our guests are increasingly diverse, and the presenting needs range from immediate issues such as hunger, lack of clothes, physical ill-health to long term issues including mental health, drug and alcohol dependency, homelessness, loneliness and isolation.

The cost-of-living crisis has meant that more people are needing to access our services, and that many of those who already accessed our services are needing to use them more frequently. We are currently seeing between 120-180 people per day for our lunchtime meal service, and this still seems to be rising, meaning more resources are required to maintain our services.

Your continued support helps the work we do including replenishing our food store for the coming months.

Kind regards

*Anna Long
Treasurer
Ace of Clubs
020 7720 2811
@weareaceofclubs*

Reception parents and carers - School Health term questionnaire

The School Health team have asked us to remind our Reception parents and carers to respond to the questionnaire that was sent out earlier this week. Every response helps to further identify the health

needs of the children in the Borough. You can access the survey by clicking [here](#). The survey has been extended until **10th November 2023** and takes approximately six minutes to complete.

Flu immunisations - Wednesday 29 November

Please remember to respond to the information we have sent on the flu nasal vaccines that will take place in school on Wednesday 29 November, administered by the local school healthcare team. All parents were sent information by email on Monday 9 October. Your child is being offered the live nasal flu spray or the injectable porcine free flu vaccine. You must give your consent for your child to receive the vaccine and there is a link to the consent form in the information that has been sent that must be completed if you want your child to receive the vaccine in school.

The form must be completed by Monday 27 November - the immunisation team cannot accept any late requests. Please also complete the form even if you do not want your child to receive the vaccination or if they have received it elsewhere. If you have any queries please contact the School Immunisation team directly on HRCH.ImmunisationTeamKingstonMailbox@nhs.net or 020 3691 1027 / 1043.

Care for the family - 6 week parenting course - starting Thursday 9 November

Achieving for Children are running a 6 week parenting course at Old Malden children's centre, KT3 5NB. The course will run on Thursday mornings between 10 - 12 noon and is most suitable for parents with children up to the age of 5. Topics covered include: Expectations and realities of parenting, Children's needs, Play and listening, Parenting styles, Discipline and safety and Building strong families. For more information please see the poster at the end of this newsletter, the link to register is here

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeJKPDmLaaWji5tqvmOlmPZPI6RibCtHnpF0synUPGdQruhw/viewform>

Pupil Premium Grant

When your child was admitted to the school we checked their eligibility for the Pupil Premium Grant. Please get in touch with us if your financial circumstances have changed since your child's eligibility was checked and you think you may now be eligible. Families entitled to this grant are eligible for free school trips, a termly after school club and other funded benefits including supermarket vouchers for the school holidays to cover the cost of the lunchtime meals that your child would normally receive in school. Please complete the attached link and your status will be re-assessed <https://forms.gle/yrUZKUVsunMns7yc9>. You can complete this form at any time if you would like us to re-check your status and we will let you know if you qualify for the grant. We are an agency for Foodbank Vouchers and we are able to issue these directly to you. Please email the School Office - admin@chi.rbksch.org - if you feel in need of this support (email will be checked intermittently), all requests will be treated in the strictest confidence.

"Helping Children with... " webinars

The Mental Health support team at Achieving for Children have arranged a series of webinars that they are offering to parents and carers of primary school children this academic year, covering resilience, friendships and challenging behaviours. Please see the links below. These webinars are always extremely popular and early booking is advised

Helping Children with... Resilience

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sCHvAORkAH4i0cO2kYNSeErfFqp0IxEIMf6ndS3aQLA/edit>

Helping Children with... Friendships

[15th & 17th November MHST Workshop: Helping Children with friendships Sign up form](#)

Helping Children with... challenging behaviour

[6th & 8th December MHST Workshop: Helping Children with challenging behaviour Sign up Form](#)

Community and other information

We hope you find the following information useful:

- Please find to follow the Kingston Children's Centre programme for Autumn 2, starting Monday 30th October, via this link: <https://tinyurl.com/KCCS-Autumn-2-updated>. Families with children under 5 may find this useful.
- Some of you may be interested in a new venue to hire in Raynes Park, The Pavilion SW20 www.thepavilionsw20.com, see the flyer below.

- Kingston First have asked us to pass on details of events around Kingston in the run up to Christmas <https://kingstonuponthames.info/christmas-in-kingston>

Wishing you a restful weekend.

Warm regards

Janet Berry

Safeguarding

Safeguarding our young children is our priority and all staff are trained to keep children safe. However, safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and if you are concerned about a child or young person please call children's services on 020 8547 5008. The South London CAMHS Crisis Line for both children and adults can be reached on 0800 028 8000.

CHRISTMAS FAIR - REQUEST FOR DONATIONS

Friday 1 and Saturday 2 December

Donations of whole cakes / cupcakes / cookies /gingerbread biscuits etc for the desserts and refreshments stall. These should be taken to either of the school offices on Friday 1 December or straight to the stall on Saturday 2 December. They should be in airtight containers to keep them fresh. **Please do not include nuts or nut products in any item.** Please clearly label all containers with your child's name/class if you would like them returned to you. This stall is popular and celebrates the talented bakers we have in the Coombe Hill Schools!

Friday 1 December IS A MUFTI DAY FOR BOTH THE INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS. DONATIONS OF BOTTLES* AND/OR CHOCOLATES WILL BE COLLECTED AT THE SCHOOL GATES.

** We would be grateful for donations of new and unopened bottles of alcoholic drinks, non-alcoholic drinks, toiletries, olive oil etc for the bottle tombola stall.*

International food

If you can donate international food (such as curries, lasagne, chilli, pizza etc) please contact Izzy at chiptadiversity@gmail.com, or one of the School Offices. This is a very popular stall. Coombe Hill Schools have such a diverse community and this is a chance for parents to introduce their national signature dishes or even the family favourite dishes on this special day. Please donate if you can! Unfortunately, we cannot accept food that contains nuts or nut products.

Raffle

Each class is requested to donate a raffle prize. This could be hamper or a luxury item, or an experience voucher. A class may also decide to donate cash.

To donate an individual or class prize to the Raffle, please email chiptachair@gmail.com

Christmas Fair 2023 - Saturday 2 December - 12-3.30pm

The Coombe Hill Infants and Junior Schools' Christmas Fair will take place in about 4 weeks time! Stalls have been allocated and your class reps should be getting in touch with you all shortly about how you can help - please help where you can!

We will start to collect donations from Monday 20 November so please see the information below about when we would like donations to come in. **The main collection points for donations are outside the Junior and Infants' school offices.**

Week starting Monday 20 November

Donations of **filled Jam Jars** (filled with wrapped sweets, small toys etc). We would also like donations of **clean** empty jam jars; and separate sweets/toys etc if you do not have jars. Please label them for the jam jar tombola.

Donations of **pre-loved childrens' books (in good condition)**;

Donations of **second hand uniform** (washed, in good condition - no holes, no stains, zips working)

Donations of **preloved Christmas jumpers** (nearly new/good condition only) and **Dress-up clothes/costumes** (clean, in good condition - either hand made or shop bought are welcome e.g. Fruit/Vegetable, Stone-age, Egyptian, World Book Day, Halloween etc).

Week starting Monday 27 November

Donations of **Toys, Games, complete puzzles etc** - in good and working condition (if not good condition please recycle elsewhere). It would help our volunteers tremendously if you are able to wipe clean the toy before you donate it to the school.

Donations of **new/nearly new Soft Toys** for the soft toy tombola (please only donate clean, undamaged soft toys in very good condition).

Donations of **NEW items for our Secret Room stall** where children can buy presents for their Parents, Grandparents, siblings and others. Previously we have received brand new jewellery, makeup sets, cooking utensils, cups, candles and unwanted gifts.

If a class decides to donate cash instead, to save our reps time, we will be setting up ParentPay to allow parents to donate cash directly. More information on the raffle will follow soon.

External stalls

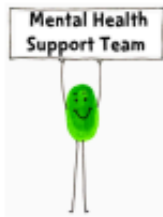
If you would like an external stall, please contact Jessica at chiptatreasurer@gmail.com

Many thanks for all your hard work and enthusiasm!! This is not only one of our biggest fundraising events of the year but also a wonderful family day out - we couldn't do it without your support.

If you have any questions, please contact us at chjptachair@gmail.com (for the Junior school) and chiptachair@gmail.com (for the Infant school).

Christmas Fair Committee

Eleanor, Jessica, Sophie, Wendy



**Emotional Regulation - Early Years & KS1
Parent
Workshop
Mental Health Support Team**

The Mental Health Support Team (MHST) is an **early intervention** service. We provide children, young people, families/carers and staff in school settings to support emotional health and wellbeing, across Kingston and Richmond. The Mental Health Support Team is delivered by Achieving for Children as part of our Emotional Health Service.



Shakira Cutting

Shakira Cutting, who is a Dance Movement Psychotherapist and CAMHS Practitioner, part of the Mental Health Team and assigned to Coombe Hill Infant, will be delivering a:

Emotional Regulation Early Years and KS1 Parent Workshop

at the school on

Friday 3rd November, from 9:00-10:00am

and online:

Thursday 9th November, from 6:00-7:00pm

We are offering the same workshop in-person and online. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to admin@chi.rbksch.org with your full name and the date that you would like to attend.

The aim of this workshop is:

To help you help your child in understanding emotions in themselves and how to regulate them. Children are continuing to learn and develop how to do this themselves, they need their parents/carers to teach and support them.

- This workshop will provide you with background information about emotional regulation
- Space to think about any behaviour that you may witness from your child/children, and what this might mean for them
- Practical ideas and tools to support with emotional regulation
- There will also be time to ask questions at the end

If you would like further information about this, or any other work offered by the Mental Health Support Team, please speak to the designated Mental Health Lead for your child's school, Mrs Jakob. Alternatively, you can contact Shakira on shakira.cutting@achievingforchildren.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you.

TIME OUT FOR PARENTS



THE EARLY YEARS

Sessions for anyone parenting children under 5

Dates

Thursday 9 November - 14 December

10.00 - 12.00

Venue

Old Malden Children's Centre,
Lawrence Avenue,
New Malden
KT3 5NB

To express your interest:

<https://forms.gle/APC922uF19f6Qj4d9>

For more information

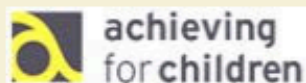
Contact Siobhan Meacher on

07784 006661 / 020 8339 9848 or email

siobhan.meacher@achievingforchildren.org.uk



Common-sense, jargon-free information
and ideas to help you to engage with your
children and boost your relationship





EVENT HIRE FOR THE WIMBLEDON, RAYNES PARK, NEW MALDEN, WORCESTER PARK & KINGSTON AREA

Let's Party!

VENUE HIRE

AT THE PAVILION SW20

BIRTHDAYS - WEDDINGS - CELEBRATIONS - MEETINGS

Our newly refurbished facilities offer some really unique opportunities for groups large and small to come together and celebrate in style!

ABOUT US

Our facilities provide 2 bars, social areas, veranda, in-house catering, audio visual and sizable car parking that can cater for any size of occasion.

FACILITIES

- Fully licensed bar
- In-house catering
- 5 visual displays & wifi
- 5 mins walk from Raynes Park train station & excellent bus connections
- From 20 to 150 people
- Parking up to 60 vehicles
- Corporate Events



CONTACT US

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